in this regard and if so, the details thereof and what is the reaction of Government of India in regard thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI KAMAL MORARKA): (a) Yes Sir, the transit and refuelling facility was provided to US Air Force transport aircraft.

(b) 100 aircrafts.

(c) No, Sir. Government have, however, seen the statement issued by the Government of Iraq on this issue. Government have conveyed to the Government of Iraq that the transit and refuelling facilities provided to US Air Force transport aircraft was solely for the purpose of transporting non-lethal cargo and for evacuating personnel on humanitarian, medical and emergency considerations.

Resrtiction on Dalai Lama's political activities in India

447. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have issued directions restraining Dalai Lama from indulging in political activities in India; and

(b) if so, the details of such directions and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI KAMAL MORARKA): (a) and (b) Government have all along maintained that H. H. the Dalai Lama, who is a respected religious and spiritual leader, should not conduct political activities on Indian soil, incompatible with Government's well known stand on the status of Tibet.

"Formulation of a new system of Environmental Clearance for Industries"

448. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to formulate a new system of Environmental Clearance for Industries; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

"Flouting of rules by the Museum"

449. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA:

SHRI N. E. BALARAM:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item captioning "Museum flouts rule, doles out rare fauna to U. S. when preservers turn destroyers" appearing in Indian Express of 4th January, 1991; and

(b) whether any inquiry has been made into the allegations made therein, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) and (b) The Government has seen the news item. The Indo-US Herpetological Project is a research project, undertaken by the National Museum of Natural History, New Delhi, in collaboration with Carnegie Museum of Natural History, Pittsburg, USA, to study the environmental diversity of the amphibians and reptiles in selected regions of Kerala, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Maharashtra. Such of the specimens collected by field teams from selected sites as require further examination and analysis are sent to Carnegie Museum. The project provides that 50 per cent of the collected specimens will be returned to the National Museum of Natural History after completion of their study at the Carnegie Museum.

Fall-out of new Motor Vehicle Act

450. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA:
SHRI N. E. BALARAM:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state: